industrial units assisted by banks in the country are collected by the Reserve Bank of India as per the definition of sickness adopted by it. The latest data available with Reserve Bank of India are for the period ending December, 1986.

(b) As at the end of December, 1986, there were 1,45,776 sick small scale units in the country.

A number of causes, both internal and external, often operating in combination have been responsible for industrial sickness. Some of these causes are; faulty planning, management deficiencies, inefficient financial control, diversion of resources, inadequate attention to R&D, obsolescence of technology and machinery poor industrial relations, inadequate demand, shortage of raw materials and other inputs and infrastructural constraints.

(c) A number of measures have been taken by the Government for detecting sickness at the incipient stage and towards rehabilitation of sick units in the small scale sector. Detailed guidelines were issued by the Reserve Bank of India to all commercial banks in February, 1987 with specific reference to detecting incipient sickness, identification of sick small scale units, viability norms, as also reliefs and concessions from banks/financial institutions for implementation of rehabilitation packages in the case of potentially viable sick units. The Small Industries Development Fund (SIDF) set up by the Industrial Development Bank of India in May, 1986 also provides for rehabilitation assistance to sick small scale units financed by commercial banks, State Financial Corporations and State Small Industries Development Corporations. Financial assistance in the form of long term equity type assistance upto Rs. 75,000 to units with a project cost not exceeding Rs. 5 lakhs at a nominal service charge of 1 per cent per annum is also available to potentially viable sick units in the small scale sector from the National Equity Fund set up in August, 1987.

Government of India liberalised the Margin Money Scheme for revival of sick small scale units and the quantum of assistance under the scheme has been raised from Rs. 20,000 to Rs. 50,000 per unit.

Studies on the working of public sector undertakings

1964. SHRIMATI SUDHA VIJAY JOSHI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any studies were made recently about the working of Public Sector Undertakings; their working costs, their production, profits earned or losses incurred etc.;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what steps have been taken to improve their working and to make them result-oriented?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) and (b). An analytical report reviewing the working of public sector undertakings during 1986-87, their working costs, profit earned losses incurred etc. has been laid on the Table of the House on 25th February, 1988.

(c) The details of the steps taken by the Government to improve the working of the public sector undertakings are given at page 179 of Volume-I of the Public Enterprises Survey 1986-87 placed on the Table of the House on 25th February, 1988.

Mode of Survey by Maruti Udyog Limited

1965. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 659 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 29th February, 1988 and state:

(a) what was the mode/form of surveys undertaken by Maruti Udyog Limited in the past to receive feed back from the customers on the services provided by the dealers selling the vehicles; and

(b) whether any proforma is provided alongwith the instruction book to every customer so as to enable him to give his opinion on different relevant matters?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) Maruti Udyog Limited collects feedback from customers on aftersales-service provided by the dealers through questionnaires, which are either personally administered or mailed to the customers. A service feedback form on a pre-paid self-addressed inland letter is also sent to a random sample of customers for informing MUL of their opinion/experience. In addition, adult checks of 3-4 recently serviced vehicles are performed by service engineers of MUL during their inspection visit to dealerships.

(b) No, Sir.

Appointment of persons belonging to SC and ST in public sector undertakings

1966. SHRI AJIT P. .K. JOGI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1684 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 10th August, 1987 and state:

(a) whether in view of the fact that in groups A & B respectively only 5.58 and 7.68 per cent vacancies have been filled up by appointing members belonging to SC and ST;

(b) whether Government propose to issue directives to the Public Sector Undertakings for filling up the large number of reserved vacancies by special direct recruitment drives permitting horizontal entry at these levels;

(c) whether Government will also consider filling up these vacancies by eligible persons belonging to reserved categories working in other Government departments and other public sector undertakings; and

(d) whether any officer in any of the Public Sector Undertakings has ever been punished for failing to meet the constitutional and governmental commitments of reservation of posts in various groups, if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (c) Even though the representation of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes employees in Group 'A' & 'B' posts of public sector undertakings is below the prescribed percentage, their representation in these groups of posts is increasing steadily over the years. Having regard to the backlog in the overall representation of Scheduld Casts and Scheduled Tribes in Group 'A' and 'B' posts of public sector undertakings, the Bureau of Public Enterprises have advised the public sector undertakings, through their administrative Ministries, to make concerted efforts to fill up vacancies reserved for them to the maximum extent possible and to consider for that purpose amongst others, the desirability of organising special recruitment tests exclusively for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

Reservation, however is vacancy related concept and has to be implemented within the framework of the overall recruitment policies of the public sector undertakings. It may not, therefore, be possible for the pubilc sector undertakings to resort to horizontal entry at senior levels or appointment of employees of Government/other public sector undertakings against unfilled vacancies if the recruitment policies of individual public sector undertakings do not provide for these.

(d) Like other officers of public sector undertakings engaged in different activities, the officers dealing with implementation of rservation policy are also accountable to their Management. Each undertaking has its own system of rewards and punishment for the performance or non-performance of its employees.

Distribution of gas through HBJ pipeline

1967. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) on what basis the distribution of the quantity of gas transported through the HBJ pipeline among the four States i.e., Gujarat, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh has been made;

(b) what are the reasons that in spite of the fact that the pipeline would pass through a large area of Madhya Pradesh only 10 per cent share has been allotted to Madhya Pradesh; and